

CALIFORNIA STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

Weekly

Bulletin

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GUY P. JONES
EDITOR

Report of a Rural Nurse.

The following report of Miss Gert-rude Byrne, public health nurse at Gridley in Butte County, is published here because of its excellent record of accomplishment.

The Gridley High School District in Butte County, is the field in which the Gridley health nurse has been carrying on a program under the direct supervision of the Butte County nurse. This district includes the two Gridley grammar schools (225 pupils in one, 275 in the other), the high school of 200 pupils, and four grammar schools in the country just outlying Gridley. There are approximately 250 pupils in these country schools. The whole area covers a region about ten miles in length and four miles in width.

From April 11 to May 2, the Gridley nurse carried on school inspection, visited homes, especially those of the children who were going to attend the preschool clinic, and completed the remaining detail work of arranging for the clinic. The county nurse had arranged for one and one-half days of clinic in Gridley, as a part of her county program. May 2 and the morning of May 3 were the dates set. Mothers were to accompany their children. Dr. Ruth Carpenter Hart of Sacramento County was sent by the State Bureau of Child Hygiene to carry on the examinations. Three of our local doctors gladly gave their services in helping Dr. Hart. The other two doctors were cooperative,

but unable to attend the clinic at that particular time. Out of 65 appointments, 63 attended. Besides these there were 14 extra children, making a total of 77 children examined. Fifty-seven were examined the first day, 20 the following morning. Recommendations for correction of defects, made by the examining doctors, were given to the mothers, duplicates kept by the Gridley nurse (this clinic was held in one of the grammar schools).

May 9, toxin-antitoxin clinics were also held in the schools. Mimeographed letters were sent home to each family for obtaining parent's approval and consent to the treatment, by their signatures. The local physicians, (county nurse, and Gridley nurse assisting) gave the toxin-antitoxin. The equipment consisted of tables, electric plates, needles, etc. All doctors were present at the same time each Monday, so that the treatments were done quickly, with as little confusion as possible, in the school rooms. The children were called from their rooms to the outer hall, and their teachers checked off their names as the serum was given. The charge per series of treatment was 75 cents a child. This paid for the serum, the other expenses of the clinic, including \$15 to each doctor (four doctors helped). It also left some money for the Gridley Health Center Fund. Two hundred fifty-nine school children, 9 teachers, 62 preschool children and 15 high school pupils were thus immunized against diphtheria.

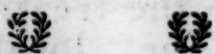
The three following Thursdays, 111 immunizations were given in the

country schools of the Gridley district. The county health officer, assisted by the county nurse and Gridley nurse, gave the toxin-antitoxin. This made a total of 456 individuals immunized in this district.

Sandwiched in between clinics, and home visiting, 350 individual health inspections were made in Gridley schools by local nurse. The inspection consisted of the usual weighing, measuring, examination of teeth, throat, ears and eyes, with the hope of having these defects corrected before the summer months, at recommendation of the childrens' family physicians.

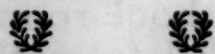
The last week of work in Gridley, 6 children were taken to Marysville hospital for removal of tonsils and adenoids. The operations were performed by a Sacramento ear, nose and throat specialist. His services were given without charge, the Rotary Club of Gridley carrying the hospital expense. There was no charge to the family in these 6 cases. They were financially unable to have the work done, and in all the children the work was well worth while, very bad tonsils (diseased, most of them) and adenoids as well.

The work in Gridley could never have been done had there not been such good insight, direction and supervision of the county nurse, Miss Sokoll, the helpful cooperation of all local physicians, the eagerness of many families for definite health program, the help and cooperation of the local service and business clubs, teachers and principals of Gridley schools.



New Health Officer for Lassen County.

Dr. G. S. Martin has been appointed Health Officer of Lassen County to succeed Dr. H. B. Ehle. Dr. Martin resides at Susanville.



The entrance of the public health nurse into the field of preventive medicine has opened a new era in public health.—Charles J. Hastings, M.D., Medical Officer of Health, Toronto.



"The public health nurse, probably better than any other agent, can help the practicing physician in educating the public to the need of medical examinations, and to the importance of availing themselves of the measures of preventive medicine. The medical profession can find the greatest assistance from the public health nurse, and the nurse who understands that her duty and training is not to make diagnoses, but to create an interest of the public in its physical welfare, will find that most physicians fully appreciate her value."—Dr. O. E. Locken.

A. P. H. A. to Meet at Cincinnati.

When will the peak of heart disease mortality be reached? What can we do about measles? How about the common cold? Has prohibition promoted the public health? Are we giving attention to the nutrition of the industrial workers? Why is conservation of sight a public health problem? Is food poisoning a material factor in shortening the life span? How far have we gone and how far are we going in public health education? What is the place of the government in public health administration?

These and many other pertinent questions pertaining to the health of the people will be discussed at the fifty-sixth annual meeting of the American Public Health Association at Cincinnati, Ohio, October 17-21, with headquarters at Hotel Gibson.

This year the annual meeting will open officially at noon on Monday and close Friday noon, which gives opportunity for one more session than in previous years. The Ohio Society of Sanitarians and the Ohio Health Commissioners will hold their annual meetings in conjunction with the A. P. H. A. in Cincinnati.

Each of the nine sections of the association—Laboratory, Health officers, Vital Statistics, Public Health Engineering, Industrial Hygiene, Food and Drugs, Child Hygiene, Public Health Education, and Public Health Nursing—will hold individual section meetings. In some instances two or more sections will combine for joint meetings. The topic for discussion at the Forum session is "Has Prohibition Promoted the Public Health?" C. E. A. Winslow, Dr. P. H., Yale University, presiding. One session will be given to the discussion of mental hygiene from the angle of the home, the school, and the industrial field. An analysis will be made by a special committee on the health programs in operation in normal schools and colleges and will be supplemented by constructive suggestions.

Dr. Herman N. Bundeson, health commissioner of Chicago, Dr. William H. Park, of the New York City Health Department Laboratories, Dr. Clarence E. Smith of the U. S. Public Health Service, and C. W. Larson of the U. S. Department of Agriculture, are among the specialists asked to give the most recent developments in

the sanitary production and handling of milk.

Several luncheon and dinner meetings will be held by sections including Laboratory, Public Health Engineering, Industrial Hygiene, Food and Drugs, and Public Health Education. Besides a special session on venereal disease control, a round table luncheon conference has been scheduled.

Trips to points of interest in and around Cincinnati have been arranged by the local committee. An attractive program for the entertainment of the women guests and delegates at the annual meeting has been provided by the Cincinnati committee.

Railroads will grant the usual reduced rates to members and fellows of the association going to Cincinnati for the meeting. Transportation certificates will be mailed to members of the American Public Health Association, September 1. Application for reduced fare certificates and for information should be made to Homer N. Calver, Executive Secretary, American Public Health Association, 370 Seventh Avenue, New York City.

Health is the greatest of all possessions—a whole cobbler is a better man than a sick Bickerstaff.

Now Is Time to Prevent Hay Fever.

For those who have hay fever later in the season, beginning about August, now is the time to start treatment if any hope is held for the prevention or relief of the disease this year.

There is no absolutely sure preventive for hay fever, but there is a treatment of prevention which, if commenced early enough, is usually successful at least in a measure. The treatment is known as the pollen extract treatment and to be effective it must be started considerably in advance of the date upon which the disease usually makes its appearance. For those who have hay fever in August, treatment should be started now. The course of treatment consists of a series of injections of increasing amounts of extract of the particular pollen which is responsible for your own case of hay fever. As previously stated it is not an absolutely sure prevention. In many instances it does entirely prevent the disease; the great majority of cases are distinctly benefited by it and a very few are apparently not helped.—Detroit Health Review.

Keep Watch for Poliomyelitis Cases.

June has brought to California an increased number of cases of poliomyelitis. The situation, so far, is not alarming but conditions indicate that we shall have more cases of this disease during the coming summer and fall months than were present during the same period of last year. Health officers are requested to keep a sharp outlook for cases that may be poliomyelitis and to institute isolation without delay. Prevention of contact with suspected cases is the only available method of control that we have. The following table indicates the relative prevalence of the disease in California, by months, since 1923.

POLIOMYELITIS.					
	1923	1924	1925	1926	1927
January -----	3	8	17	8	13
February -----	3	4	14	14	9
March -----	1	9	11	13	7
April -----	2	4	29	10	7
May -----	7	1	36	11	20
June -----	5	4	79	16	54
July -----	8	10	204	17 to 6/29	
August -----	23	9	200	18	--
September -----	40	17	105	35	--
October -----	91	51	51	13	--
November -----	39	39	51	17	--
December -----	29	36	24	15	--
Totals -----	251	192	821	187	

MORBIDITY.*

Diphtheria.

98 cases of diphtheria have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 1, Oakland 4, Butte County 2, Chico 2, Richmond 1, Kern County 5, Los Angeles County 15, El Monte 1, Huntington Park 1, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 31, Pasadena 1, Whittier 3, South Gate 1, Tujunga 1, Napa County 1, Placer County 1, Sacramento 1, San Bernardino 3, San Diego County 1, San Diego 1, San Francisco 10, Stockton 2, San Mateo County 2, Santa Clara County 1, Palo Alto 1, Stanislaus County 1, Tulare 1, Sonora 1, Winters 1.

Scarlet Fever.

108 cases of scarlet fever have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 1, Alameda 1, Berkeley 2, Oakland 9, Butte County 4, Chico 5, Pittsburg 1, Fresno County 3, Los Angeles 12, Claremont 1, Glendale 3, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 24, Monrovia 1, Pomona 1, San Gabriel 1, Whittier 3, Orange County 2, Santa Ana 2, San Bernardino 1, San Diego 7, San Francisco 10, San Joaquin County 1, Stockton 1, Redwood City 1, San Mateo 2, Santa Clara County 4, Mountain View 1, Palo Alto 1, San Jose 2.

Smallpox.

8 cases of smallpox have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 1, Oakland 4, Inglewood 1, Monterey County 1, Sacramento 1.

Measles.

402 cases of measles have been reported, as follows: Albany 1, Berkeley 7, Oakland 8,

* From reports received on June 27th and 28th for week ending June 25th.

Pittsburg 1, Fresno County 5, Humboldt County 1, Kern County 1, Taft 1, Hanford 1, Los Angeles County 53, Alhambra 10, Azusa 2, Burbank 2, Claremont 9, Glendale 14, Huntington Park 2, Inglewood 1, La Verne 7, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 46, Monrovia 1, Pasadena 4, Pomona 6, Redondo 1, San Fernando 1, San Gabriel 4, Sierra Madre 1, South Pasadena 2, Monterey Park 3, Madera County 10, Monterey County 2, Monterey 2, Grass Valley 1, Orange County 13, Anaheim 1, Fullerton 1, Huntington Beach 1, Newport Beach 2, Orange 4, Santa Ana 2, Riverside County 5, Corona 8, Riverside 15, Sacramento 2, Ontario 3, Upland 2, San Diego County 18, Chula Vista 1, Coronado 6, Oceanside 6, San Diego 27, San Francisco 31, San Luis Obispo County 1, Arroyo Grande 9, Paso Robles 1, San Mateo County 1, Burlingame 9, San Mateo 2, Palo Alto 2, San Jose 2, Watsonville 1, Petaluma 9, Stanislaus County 1, Tulare County 4, Porterville 1.

Typhoid Fever.

16 cases of typhoid fever have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 1, Colusa County 1, Contra Costa County 1, Humboldt County 1, Fortuna 1, Kings County 2, Los Angeles County 1, Los Angeles 1, Placer County 1, Riverside County 1, Sacramento County 1, San Francisco 2, Stanislaus County 1, Tulare County 1.

Whooping Cough.

152 cases of whooping cough have been reported, as follows: Alameda 11, Berkeley 6, Oakland 25, Amador County 5, Fresno County 1, Lemoore 4, Los Angeles County 13, Alhambra 3, Glendale 1, Inglewood 2, Long Beach 3, Los Angeles 19, Pasadena 2, San Gabriel 1, Hawthorne 2, Santa Ana 2, Placer County 1, Sacramento 1, National City 2, San Diego 16, San Francisco 18, San Joaquin County 2, Stockton 3, Arroyo Grande 1, Santa Barbara County 1, Palo Alto 2, San Jose 4, Petaluma 1.

Poliomyelitis.

24 cases of poliomyelitis have been reported, as follows: Alameda County 1, Oakland 5, Kern County 3, Bakersfield 2, Long Beach 1, Los Angeles 4, Santa Ana 1, Riverside 2, Sacramento County 1, San Diego 1, San Francisco 2, Modesto 1.

Meningitis (Epidemic).

2 cases of epidemic meningitis have been reported, as follows: Alhambra 1, San Francisco 1.

Leprosy.

Los Angeles reported one case of leprosy.

Encephalitis (Epidemic).

Pasadena reported one case of epidemic encephalitis.

COMMUNICABLE DISEASE REPORTS.

Disease	1927				1926			
	Week ending			Reports for week ending June 25 received by June 28	Week ending			Reports for week ending June 26 received by June 29
	June 4	June 11	June 18		June 5	June 12	June 19	
Anthrax	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Botulism	3	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chickenpox	286	332	288	171	188	251	175	137
Diphtheria	121	114	101	98	90	107	87	100
Dysentery (Bacillary)	2	1	2	1	0	0	0	1
Encephalitis (Epidemic)	1	1	2	1	0	0	0	0
Gonococcus Infection	97	94	90	71	89	77	123	64
Influenza	12	16	10	12	20	14	8	1
Jaundice (Epidemic)	0	2	1	0	0	4	0	0
Leprosy	1	2	1	1	0	0	1	0
Malaria	0	1	1	1	0	2	1	1
Measles	960	727	596	402	495	527	441	353
Meningitis (Epidemic)	9	5	7	2	2	2	4	3
Mumps	202	180	158	95	274	237	140	133
Paratyphoid Fever	0	1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Pneumonia (Lobar)	41	112	45	33	53	32	33	28
Poliomyelitis	7	6	16	24	7	2	0	4
Rabies (Animal)	5	16	8	4	3	12	9	9
Rabies (Human)	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Rocky Mt. Spotted Fever	0	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Scarlet Fever	170	156	144	108	111	144	130	126
Smallpox	21	23	16	8	45	23	13	12
Syphilis	129	83	154	76	119	105	95	71
Tetanus	1	0	1	3	3	1	1	1
Trachoma	3	6	2	2	1	3	3	3
Trichinosis	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0
Tuberculosis	207	250	181	198	234	169	172	175
Typhoid Fever	9	15	8	16	22	15	24	24
Typhus Fever	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Whooping Cough	224	215	198	152	76	75	81	43
Totals	2511	2358	2030	1480	1834	1803	1541	1247

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